

SB118

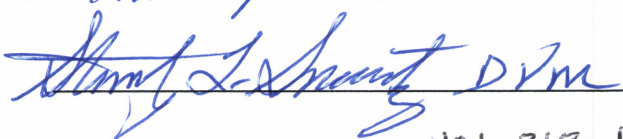
My Rationale for this bill; having been a resident for 65 years, I have cherished the hunting tradition and opportunities Montana has to offer,

I've applied for a bighorn sheep permit unsuccessfully over a span of 46 years, As have a number of my hunting companions in my age group. At our age the discussions turn to how numbered our years are to realize being able, health wise and physically to pursue these elite species in their rugged habitats.

We've all known and heard of hunters on first or second application being successful for these permits, then reapplying seven years later to be successful again. Discussions have centered on equality and fairness in the drawing. There are no simple or easy solutions.

SB118 however would give some hope to us resident senior hunters who have diligently applied unsuccessfully for these tags for years and to those younger hunters that follow us with the same feeling of inequity as they age. SB118 will not guarantee a permit for anyone that qualifies for this draw, but will certainly give them hope for a better chance.

I respectfully thank you for consideration of this bill.

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